

THE

GATEWAY

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1913

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Joint effort by UNO, UNK brings online degree to NU system

TAYLOR MULLER
ASST. NEWS/SPORTS EDITOR

A joint effort between UNO and UNK offers the only online bachelor's degree within the University of Nebraska system, with a goal of serving non-traditional students and possible expansion.

Christina Davis, the program coordinator, said the online Bachelor of General Studies degree is only for students over 21 and is part of UNO's Division of Continuing Studies.

"What we're trying to market to is the military, rural and working professionals who can't reasonably travel to campus to take classes," Davis said. "We have this focus area mainly targeted to the business environment."

Enrollment is already open for the program's first semester, which starts this spring.

Each course is similar in material covered in its in-class counterpart, said Kathy Menke, assistant dean of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service.

"They can really spend some quality time studying," said Menke, adding that students said they felt they were learning more during their online classes.

The degree is a full, 125 hour, accredited degree from UNO, with coursework focusing on organizational administration, communication and business.

"This is the first completely online bachelor's degree to be offered by our universities," said UNO's interim Chancellor John Christensen in a press release. "It is also good fit for someone who has an associate's degree and would like to earn a bachelor's degree."

The collaboration was necessary, Davis said, to be able to offer enough online classes. Each class is done through each university. However, the actual degree is awarded by UNO.

"If someone enrolls in a UNO course, they pay UNO tuition and are taught by UNO faculty; same for UNK," Davis said.

Both Menke and Davis commented on how they each believed online courses to be equal or better in most parts when compared to their in-class counterparts.

"How the course is taught usually depends on the instructor," Menke said. "Usually they use a variety of techniques to present the material; taped lectures, chat-rooms and lots of discussion."

And while Menke said it may not matter what you look like, "it doesn't matter what clothes you're wearing, or how old you are, anything," the students are still required to be responsible for their own education, just as much as in regular classes.

"The student will get out of it what they put in," added Davis. "It puts the impetus on the student to get their work done; it's all in their hands."

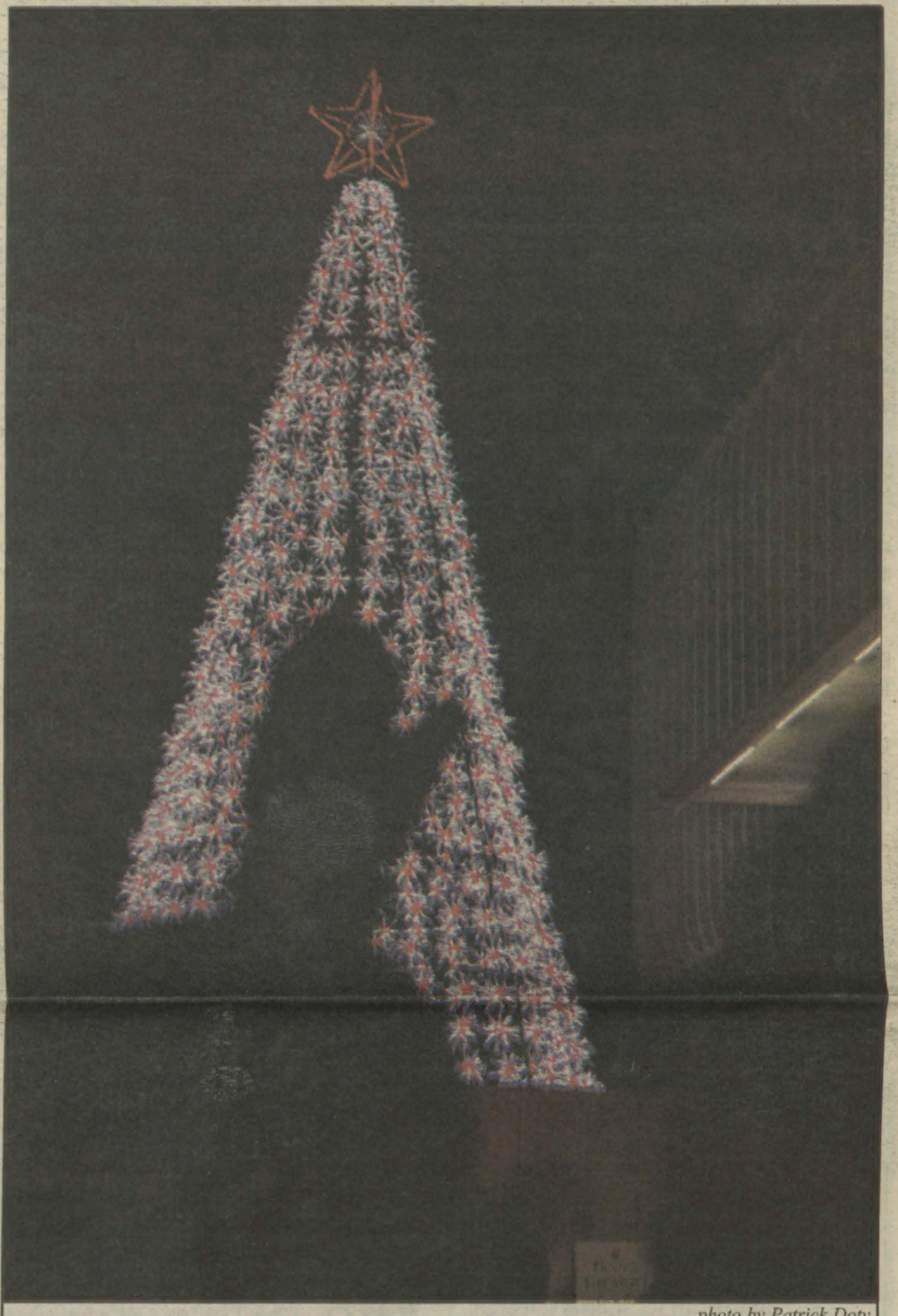


photo by Patrick Doty

Tree of Lights

Jordan Johnson, 3, raises a mitten-covered hand as the Tree of Lights on 90th and Dodge streets is lit for the first time this year on Nov. 17. See story on pg. 3.

Toy drive holds benefit concerts for poverty-stricken community

JORDAN PLAGMAN
STAFF WRITER

This holiday the Lash LaRue Toy Drive is bringing you the music while bringing the children of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota the toys.

Three years ago, Larry Dunn, an Omaha musician known as Lash LaRue and sun dancer for the Oglala Lakota Sioux tribe of Pine Ridge, organized the toy drive for poverty-stricken children of the Porcupine District.

Tom Render, president of Intertribal Student Council at UNO, is Lakota and a friend of LaRue. Render came across LaRue's

MySpace.com page regarding the toy drive and decided to help out.

"We all take for granted what we have ... and there is a lot of people that are without and it's not necessarily their fault," he said.

Render wanted to spread the word about the toy drive and called for a vote in the council. They agreed to support the drive.

"I just want to brighten up their holiday," Render said. "Probably one of the most beautiful things to see is a kid's smile."

Pine Ridge Reservation is divided into eight districts, including Porcupine, Wounded Knee and Pine Ridge. According

See **TOY DRIVE:** Page 8

UNO campus observes World AIDS Day with panel, testing

APRIL BURRESS
STAFF WRITER

UNO will observe World AIDS Day this week by offering two days of events aimed at raising student awareness about AIDS and safe-sex practices.

Rapid HIV testing will be offered in the Nebraska Room of the Milo Bail Student Center Thursday, Nov. 30, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Student Health Services will host the event in cooperation with the Nebraska AIDS Project, Women's Resource Center and other area

organizations.

Student Health Services also regularly offers HIV testing Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Marcia Adler of Student Health Services hopes the event will help create an open dialogue about AIDS and end some of the stigma associated with being tested.

"People who put themselves in uncomfortable situations are sometimes afraid to ask for help," Adler said. "If someone has a sore throat, they have no problem asking

See **AIDS DAY:** Page 8

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OmahaWeather



Today

Isolated T-Storms
H: 43 L: 22

NEWS

News you
can use

page 2

PEOPLE

Wikipedia.
com

page 3



ARTS & LEISURE

Casino
Royale

page 5

Index

News 2 Sports 6
People 3 Classifieds 8
Arts & Leisure . 4

8 Pages

News

Scott Stewart | News Editor

Page 2

news@gateway.unomaha.edu | November 28, 2006

News You Can Use

COMPILED BY
KEENA SPENCER-DOBSON
STAFF WRITER

HPER expansion presentations scheduled

Two presentations have been scheduled that will focus on the expansion and renovation of the Health, Physical Education and Recreation building. Information on the proposed expansion is available at unomaha.edu/wwwocr/renovation.php.

The presentations are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, Nov. 29, 10 a.m.

Milo Bail Student Center Council Room

Thursday, Dec. 7, 4 p.m.

HPER room 203

UNO ranked for international education

The Institute of International Education has ranked UNO 22nd for international enrollment among master's institutions. This is the fifth year that UNO has improved or maintained rank. This ranking was based on international academic mobility, U.S. students abroad and international students as well as scholars on U.S. campuses.

"The work being done at UNO has literally brought the world to Omaha," said Tom Gouttierre, dean of International Studies at UNO.

Currently, there are 955 international participants at UNO. The five countries that are providing the greatest number of students are India (108 students), Saudi Arabia (100), China (97), Japan (70) and South Korea (65).

Scholastic book sale to benefit UNO library

The UNO Library Friends is hosting its annual fall Scholastic Children's Book Fair through Wednesday. Books for children of all ages, holiday books, instructional materials, games, videos and toys will be sold.

Proceeds of the book sale will benefit the UNO Criss Library juvenile book collection. Donations for the Open World Mission and One World Community will also be accepted at the fair.

The book sale will be held in the center aisles of the Criss Library's main floor Nov. 28 and 29 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Women of Color Award nominations wanted

Nominations for the 2007 UNO Women of Color Awards are being sought. Women will be recognized for outstanding contributions in six categories: arts/humanities, business/entrepreneurship, education, community service, science/technology and youth leadership.

Award recipients will be honored at a luncheon on March 7. Recipients will also be invited to participate in community speaking events and to serve as role models and mentors for various university-related programs and activities.

Nomination forms are available online at unomaha.edu/woc. Nominations are due no later than Monday, Dec. 11.

Campus Security offers holiday safety tips

The following is a helpful list of safety tips provided by Campus Security to make the upcoming holiday season safe.

- Lock it up, even if you're gone only for a few minutes.
- Avoid leaving valuables or packages in plain view in a vehicle by placing them in the trunk or between the seats.
- During the holiday break, take valuables home from campus offices and residence halls.
- Anyone who is going to be working on campus late in the evening or when few people are around should consider advising Campus Security so that an officer can pay special attention to the area.
- Make sure doors close completely so strangers cannot follow anyone into a secure building.
- Students who live on campus and are leaving town for the holidays should make sure they have someone keeping an eye on their residence and leave emergency contact information.

Lotus Notes increases storage

Information Technology Services has announced it will increase storage space for each student, faculty and staff Lotus Notes e-mail account. The storage will be increased 100 megabytes, from 500 to 600 megabytes total storage.

New technology from UNO helps Nebraska hospitals

The Secure Telecommunications Application Terminal Package is helping hospitals throughout Nebraska. This device allows remote hospital or diagnostic laboratories to send digital images of suspicious culture samples electronically to a state public health lab for identification. It saves precious diagnostic time and eliminates the inherent risks of having the sample hand-delivered by courier to the state lab.

The Nebraska Public Health Laboratory has already distributed 20 STATPacks throughout the state. Oklahoma and Kansas are also in the process of distributing STATPacks in their state.

The STATPacks was a collaborative effort between the College of Information Science and Technology, the University of Nebraska Medical Center and the Nebraska Public Health Laboratory. The STATPacks project exemplifies the mission of the College of Information Services and Technology, which is to provide innovative technology solutions, knowledge and community service to all of Nebraska.

"The project also gives our students an incredible opportunity to be on the forefront of technology, working with industry and health care professionals to improve the quality of life in Nebraska," said Ann Fruhling, assistant professor of information systems.

WRITE TO US!

All readers are welcome to send their opinion or comments to the *Gateway*. Letters can be sent by mail, e-mail or fax. All letters should include the writer's name, address and phone number. Contact information will never be published. The *Gateway* reserves the right to reject letters or edit letters for clarity and space.

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THE GATEWAY

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Many UNO professors put a halt to Wikipedia.com in the classroom

ANDREA CIUREJ
STAFF WRITER

For weeks before his presentation date, sophomore Ryan Myers spent countless hours eyeballing the computer screen, trying to develop main points for his persuasive speech on organic foods.

As days went by, Myers had nothing but an audience analysis to persuade the class that organic foods were pricey for consumers.

Without wasting a minute more, Myers turned to Wikipedia.com to fulfill his research requirements.

Wikipedia.com is a free, online encyclopedia to which any logged in member can add or edit material.

Myers uses Wikipedia for everything.

"If I need to know something I'll use Wikipedia.com," Myers said. "I consider it to be a decent source."

A decent source to some, but a problem for many instructors.

Reading improvement instructor Mark Myers observed three problems a student faces when referring to Wikipedia.com for research.

The first problem Myers discovered was that articles are not referred sources of information. Information as such will not be, or should not be, recognized by university instructors as appropriate sources of information.

Public Relations Student Society of America advisor and instructor Karen Weber does not allow the use of Wikipedia.com as an official source in her journalism classes.

Weber said there is no way to verify information on the site.

"I teach that accuracy is paramount in all of my journalism classes," Weber said. "Documentary sources must be reliable, credible and trustworthy and there's really no way to

test the accuracy of Wikipedia.com's information."

Secondly, Myers said that because the site is not strictly refereed or peer reviewed, there is no way to guarantee that the contributors or editors of the article have not been plagiarized.

Myers' third observation arises from Wikipedia.com's form. The source is just a general encyclopedia that is rarely recognized in college courses as a source of authoritative research.

Having made observations about the source, Myers believes that students should begin their research by mining broad, general sources and then narrow their focus to authoritative, peer-reviewed sources.

"Wikipedia.com provides a handy starting point for research," Myers said. "But, because it is not meant to be a scholarly source, students should not consider using it as a citable source for their papers."

According to public speaking instructor Suzanne Carl, students should aim to exceed all encyclopedic resources at the college level.

To her students, Carl demonstrates how to use different databases found on the UNO library Web site. These research tools are considered to be credible sources.

Sophomore David Johnson, one of Carl's speech students, finds EBSCO to be extremely beneficial when

See **WIKIPEDIA:** Page 8



photo by Patrick Doty

David Knabe (left) brought two reindeer to take pictures with kids at the ceremony. Kaitlyn Stickel backs away from Prancer before the tree lighting.

Tree of Lights brightens busy intersection, kicks off Food Fight

ASHLEE SCHUETTE
STAFF WRITER

It's obvious the holiday season is here with the chill in the air, decorations on display and seasonal music on the radio. But nothing says "holiday spirit" like Omaha's annual Tree of Lights campaign.

The Salvation Army officially kicked off its fundraiser on Nov. 17 at 6 p.m. by lighting 54,800 LED lights and 543 giant starbursts on

a 50-foot steel tree outside one of Omaha's busiest intersections.

The tree, which weighs about 6,000 pounds, is located on 90th and Dodge streets in the parking lot of the American National Bank. Last year it was located near the Crossroads mall on 72nd and Dodge streets.

The Salvation Army hopes the busier

See **TREE OF LIGHTS:** Page 8

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Is it hip or just hype? Part two of an unsolved clubbing mystery...

On The Beat



Brent Crampton

So I'm back after two weeks. We left off with a bit of an investigative report on Club Nico. I had previously written a review of Nico back in August for

which I gave a very critical account, mostly touching on their poor customer service and lack of musical diversity. News of my article reached the entire staff of Nico, to which they personally and indirectly responded to me about its contents with varying moods.

Since August, we've seen Nico on a campaign of "Reenergized: New Look, New Atmosphere, New Attitude." I took a night off and went to Nico on Nov. 10 for their Club Med 2 party to check out the clout behind their shout. Aside from being a spectator of customer service, I was later asked to be a last-minute DJ on Thanksgiving Eve, for which I can detail some interesting experiences below...

Well, the night of the Club Med 2 party, I walked up to find the Japanese-exterior of Nico still standing. The cross bridge was still just for looks and the rock garden remained, although I found that their bouncers no longer had rock-hard faces. Same people, but they were rather indifferent. No one checked my ID, as they, by that time, knew who I was.

I walked in and paid the \$5 cover, even though the promoters were borrowing my monitor speaker and a few other various cords for the DJ that night. The establishment was decently full at 11:30 p.m., and the sexy doctors and naughty nurses theme was sporadically attired too.

Immediately I noticed that the hole-in-the-wall DJ booth was not occupied, as was the original design. Instead, international rocker DJ, Charles Feelgood was breaking the beats right below an impressive steel-bar platform that sat above the dance floor and extended to the ceiling where I found two hired dancers swaying away. There was another platform directly across on the other dance floor, to which the lighting guy, LJ Munz, sat, directing the aural orchestration. Other than these visual observations, I didn't notice much difference beyond the party theme.

Thinking there must be more, I crawled up the ladder to the platform, drink in hand, to where LJ Munz sat, commanding the lights.

After explaining my presence, I asked LJ what Nico had done to make a change and what kind of effect my review back in August had on the staff in initiating these purported changes.

"Your article came at a really pivotal time," he casually remarked, to which he motioned, "hold on a minute." He hesitated, pressed a few buttons and then a dramatic and loud charge of breezy cool air filled the dance floor to correspond to a song's climax. After the sound subsided, he kept working without looking up.

"Sorry. The article came at a time when Nico was in the middle of talks about changes they wanted to make.

They knew they had to change people's perceptions and your article came as a sort of affirmation of the sentiments they already had."

"So then...what sort of changes have been made?" I asked, waiting for the punchline.

In addition to the platforms, he pointed out the new tile and carpet. Oops, I must have missed that. He pointed out that there were some new lights, and they were raised up to the ceiling. Oops, I missed that as well. But, he did say that more changes were on the way, such as the implementation of flat screen and projector screen video mixing, to which I responded with curiosity, "Not bad."

"Well, what about this new attitude?" I asked LJ in-between sips of my drink.

"It's more of a general attitude," he responded. "Nico has become more conscious in how they deal with people."

Evidently a master at multi-tasking, or just a master of his craft, he synchronized the entire club's lighting patterns to the changes in the music as he spoke to me.

As for the changes in the staff, there were none—at least not literally. Again, ideologically. "The staff had a few meetings where they talked about the changes in customer service that needed to take place," LJ said.

"What was said?"

"I don't know. I'm not involved in those staff meetings," said LJ.

Well, my lead with this guy was washed up at this point, so I ventured down the latter to absorb the rest of the night.

At this point I made another obvious observation, or rather, ear-ation. The DJ had not played a single hip-hop or pop song. This much I was expecting, as the Club Med party was marketed as something beyond Nico's usual format. And Charles Feelgood, who came in to DJ just that night, is known around the world as being strictly a house music DJ. But, as in his performance at last year's Club Med party, he played an extensive catalogue of friendly dance remixes and 80's four-four reworked anthems. It was all very palatable for an uneducated crowd. On this night, though, he played more like it was at Sound Bar in Chicago. Little vocals, hard beats and basslines, and not nearly as much dance remixes.

What was this change about? Was it something the staff of Nico informed Charles Feelgood to pay tribute to?

No.

I asked one of the DJs who had been his host that night. Evidently Charles was prefaced by some of the more "underground" DJs to play his usual format, and not to dumb it up for the crowd. This all made sense now, considering that the dance floor wasn't as full as I had expected it to be.

Moving on, I sought out the general manager, Rich Wahl, for the "new attitude" side of things.

"We've had some bad experiences at the front door, especially with the dress code," said Rich. "Sometimes the staff would handle a situation a little bit too firmly, and not with a delicate way," said Rich.

To remedy this, Nico has created a manifesto of sorts of what can and can't be

See **ON THE BEAT**: Page 5



Sony Pictures

British actor Daniel Craig steps in as the sixth James Bond in *Casino Royale*, in theaters last weekend. Caterina Murino joins the cast as a new "Bond Girl."

James Bond returns with new 007, stays relevant with *Casino Royale*

ANDREW CUMBEE
A & L EDITOR

From the very beginning, you know this isn't the 007 you've grown accustomed to over the last decade. The scenes are shot in black and white. The angles are stark and much more detailed than past films. There's

no opening gunbarrel shot.

But the scene sets the tone and pace for the new James Bond, *Casino Royale*. As Bond is talking to an informant within MI6, we see inter-cut, his violent first fight as an agent.

See **BOND**: Page 7

Ad must be presented to receive pair of passes.

One pair per person.

Passes and seating in the theater are first come, first serve.

The Gateway is open during regular business hours and is located in the Northeast corner of the Milo Bail Student Center.

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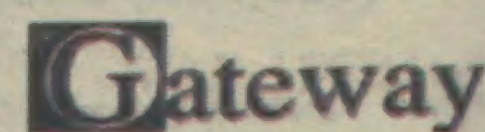
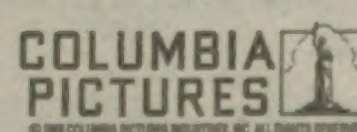
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While supplies last. Passes are available on a first come first served basis. No purchase necessary. One admit-two pass per person. Employees of all promotional partners, their agencies and those who have received a pass within the last 30 days are not eligible. The film is rated "PG-13" for sexual content and some strong language.

IN THEATRES FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH!



Warner Bros.

Hugh Jackman (left) and Oscar winner Rachel Weisz star in the beautiful, but confusing *The Fountain*.

The Fountain: Cotton candy for the mind

CHARLEY REED
ASST. A&L/PEOPLE EDITOR

Dozens of words could be used to describe the latest film from director and co-writer Darren Aronofsky (*Requiem for a Dream*), but sadly "good" isn't one of them.

The Fountain, which stars Hugh Jackman and Aronofsky's fiancé Rachel Weisz, centers around Izzi (Weisz), who has a brain tumor, and her husband, Tomas (Jackman), a doctor who will stop at nothing to save her from dying.

While this may sound like your typical chick flick, it isn't. *The Fountain* is made up of three narratives. One takes place in a book Weisz's character is writing on her deathbed, where she is the Queen of Spain, looking to find the Fountain of Youth with the help of a conquistador version of Jackman; the second features the couple's battle with the crippling disease; and the futuristic narrative, where a monk-like Jackman and a big tree travel through a golden-colored nebula in a giant bubble.

As the film jumps between these narratives, Tomas becomes more insecure about the possibility of losing his wife while Izzi comes to terms with her own mortality.

As the film's title implies, through this crisis, and the three timelines, they are on a quest to find eternal life. The message of *The Fountain* will mean different things to

different people, but probably for the wrong reasons. By the time you think you figure out what Aronofsky is trying to say; it makes no sense again.

All is not lost, though. One of the film's big victories is the eye-popping visuals. The conquistador narrative is short, but features some awesome artistic aspects while the "dream" narrative is truly stunning.

The second positive with *The Fountain* is the acting of Jackman and Weisz, who each put in fantastic performances despite a weak script and a limited amount of character development. But performances and stunning visuals are not enough to make *The Fountain* the magnum opus that it wants to be. Instead, it ends up being more like cotton candy; it tastes sweet but ultimately, the bulk of it is just a bunch of empty air.

At a run-time of 96 minutes, *The Fountain* is never dull, but is almost always confusing. People going to this film expecting, as the film's marketing would have you believe, a classic love story that spans the centuries, are going to be sorely disappointed. However, if you want to pay \$8 to essentially experience the film equivalent of an acid trip (I'm assuming), then *The Fountain* is certainly worth a try.

Grade: C-

Second semester to highlight UNO's student talents in fine art gallery

SALLY BROWN DESKINS
STAFF WRITER

To kick off the spring semester, UNO Art Gallery Director Colleen Heavican invited 29 full and part-time art and art history faculty to submit work for the Faculty Exhibition, showing Jan. 12 through Feb. 18.

Instead of a theme of style or subject matter, the show is going to focus on the creative artistic process. Faculty are asked to include a statement, sketches and any notes of inspiration to illustrate the creative process, Heavican said.

"Students will realize that what professors ask them to do in class, they actually do as well," she said. "It's all about the process. And it's all real."

Heavican is looking forward to the spring, her second working semester as gallery director at UNO. Heavican's expertise is impressive: she previously worked at Opera Omaha and obtained master's degrees in both art history and museum studies from Syracuse University in New York.

However, she isn't a stranger to UNO. This semester will make two years teaching Art History Survey 1 in the Department of Art and Art History.

Heavican said her favorite thing about working here is the students. She

has five work-study students helping her out, and the occasional art students she "steals" that volunteer to help her hang or take down shows.

"I really like the mentoring aspect of this gallery," she said. "It helps me stay current."

One of Heavican's goals is to have non-juried, student-concentrated shows exhibiting progressive levels of art courses so gallery visitors can see the achievements and differences among the stages of being an art student.

Many shows at the UNO Gallery already feature student work. The last show of 2006, the Fall BFA Thesis Show, exhibits four seniors' work and is titled "speculation verito: observation interpreted Fall 2006 Bachelor of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition."

Each of the students will exhibit work in different styles and media: Jeff W. Halvin's photo-narratives, Dan Lowe's video installation, Katrina Pierce's prints and Bart Vargas's sculpture installation.

Mid-spring semester, all UNO art students are invited to submit work for the 2007 UNO Art Student Exhibition, to be held Mar. 2 through Apr. 6. To finish the year, the Spring 2007 BFA Thesis Exhibition will be held Apr. 13 through

See **GALLERY**: Page 8

From **ON THE BEAT**: Page 4

worn. And if the customer makes the changes, the cover is free. Rich's motto for the door guys: "To treat [patrons] as they wish to be treated when entering a restaurant."

"Now we can offer our customers a paper on the specifics of our requirements, and if they make the changes, the cover is free," he said.

On the subject of music and Nico, Rich said, "We're finding it hard to kind of train the crowd to be more open to house, break beats and techno," he said. "But it's an ongoing process that is going to take awhile."

I found myself, two weeks later, being asked to be apart of that process when Rich called. Instead of the business being the *Gateway*, they needed a DJ for their Thanksgiving eve night, which just happened to begin in about six hours at that point. So I came to the rescue, record crate in hand to test for myself, from behind the DJ booth, what exactly these changes were that Nico was making and what changes I might be able to make myself.

But that's a story for another time. I'll be back in a week with the final *On the Beat* of 2006 and I'll let you know all about it.

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OG12314

Conference honors abound for standout Maverick athletes

COMPILED BY JASON GLENN
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite having their seasons cut short in the playoffs, the UNO soccer, volleyball and football teams each landed a number of players on all-conference, all-region or all-American teams. Here is a rundown of the Maverick athletes who were honored for their outstanding play during the 2006 season.



Beth McGill

Soccer

North Central Conference champion UNO placed five players on the 11-member all-NCC first team, including Beth McGill, who earned most valuable player honors for a second straight season. In addition, Don Klosterman was named the league's coach of the year for a second time. Besides McGill, who led the conference in scoring, Amanda Iwansky, Amber Richardson, Tara Wegehaupt and Dani McCawley were selected by a vote of the coaches. McGill, a senior from Omaha, is a three-time selection, while this is the second time on the team for Iwansky, a sophomore from Columbus, Neb., and Richardson, a senior from LaVista, Neb. Casey Bigsby was named to the second team for UNO.

McGill and Richardson were also named to the 11-member Daktronics All-Central Region team. The two will now advance to the national ballot.

Volleyball

Three Mavericks were named to the 2006 all-North Central Conference volleyball first team in a vote by league coaches, while Ellen Thommes was tabbed the NCC Freshman of the Year. Senior outside hitter Christina Reicks and junior middle blocker Carlie Christensen were both named to the first team for a second-straight season. Junior Nicole McLeod earned her

first all-NCC honor. Senior libero Stacie Wemhoff earned honorable mention all-NCC honors while leading the Mavericks with 500 digs which ranks sixth on the UNO single-season records chart.

Christensen also became only the 13th player in school history to be named to the AVCA All-America squad, earning third-team honors after garnering honorable mention accolades in 2005.

Football

Nine Mavericks, including most valuable offensive lineman Ben Hochstein, have been named to the all-North Central Conference team by a vote of the league's coaches. In addition, UNO's Pat Behrns was named the coach of the year for a fourth time.

Hochstein, a 6-4, 286-pound junior from Hartington, Neb., is one of five Mavericks on the first team offense. The others include senior lineman Randall Jantzen, senior tight end Zac Herold, senior tailback Kyle Kasperbauer and junior quarterback Zach Miller. Herold is a three-time selection and Kasperbauer a two-time pick.

On defense, senior outside linebacker Kenny Onatolu was picked for the third time in his career. The others selected were senior linebackers Bobby Danenhauer and Antwain Woods and sophomore defensive back Reed Taylor.

Two other Mavericks were named to the league's second team defensive unit, Tarvis Banks, senior lineman, and junior defensive back Randy Kush.

Offensive lineman Jake Krause, wide receiver Troy Kush and senior punter Don Grafton earned honorable mention.



Carlie Christensen



Zach Miller

Men's b-ball team nets weekend split with Chadron State, Quincy

JASON GLENN
SPORTS EDITOR

The injury-riddled UNO men's basketball team came out strong in their annual Thanksgiving tournament. They delivered a wallop Chadron State 93-67 Friday night, but ran out of steam in the second half of Saturday's game and fell to Quincy 62-58.

Guard Zac Robinson led the Mavs Friday night, going 8-for-13 with four three-pointers to rack up 24 points. Three other UNO players notched double figures as well, with Jeremy Williams dropping in 13 and Michael Jenkins and Andrew Bridger each hitting for 11 points.

The 0-4 Eagles came out firing and ran up an 11-4 lead to start the game before the Mavs took over with a 25-7 run that led to a 45-32 halftime advantage.

UNO built on their lead in the second half and cruised to an impressive blowout.

The script was much the same on Saturday night, as Quincy jumped out to an early lead only to see the Mavericks come charging back with tough defense and long-distance sharpshooting.

UNO built as much as an eight-point lead nearing the half but was unable to pull

away from the Hawks and had to settle for a 28-25 advantage at the break.

The Mavs kept up the offensive tempo to start the second half, but Quincy responded to every score with a bucket of their own and grabbed the lead five-and-a-half minutes into the period.

From there, the short-handed and tiring UNO squad fought to keep the game close, but ultimately couldn't find enough of the net and came up just a couple chances short.

Forward Denny Johnston, who had 13 points and 5 rebounds, said, though it wasn't an excuse, UNO's short roster definitely played a part in the outcome.

"That hurts. You're out there wrestling a guy that's a starter and they bring a fresh guy in and you have to go against him for five minutes at a time," he said. "It's pretty tough."

While he agreed that fatigue was a factor and applauded his players' effort, Coach Derrin Hansen said the bottom line is that the Mavs have to find success in their current situation.

"Our first half is as good as we've played

See **MEN'S B-BALL**: Page 8

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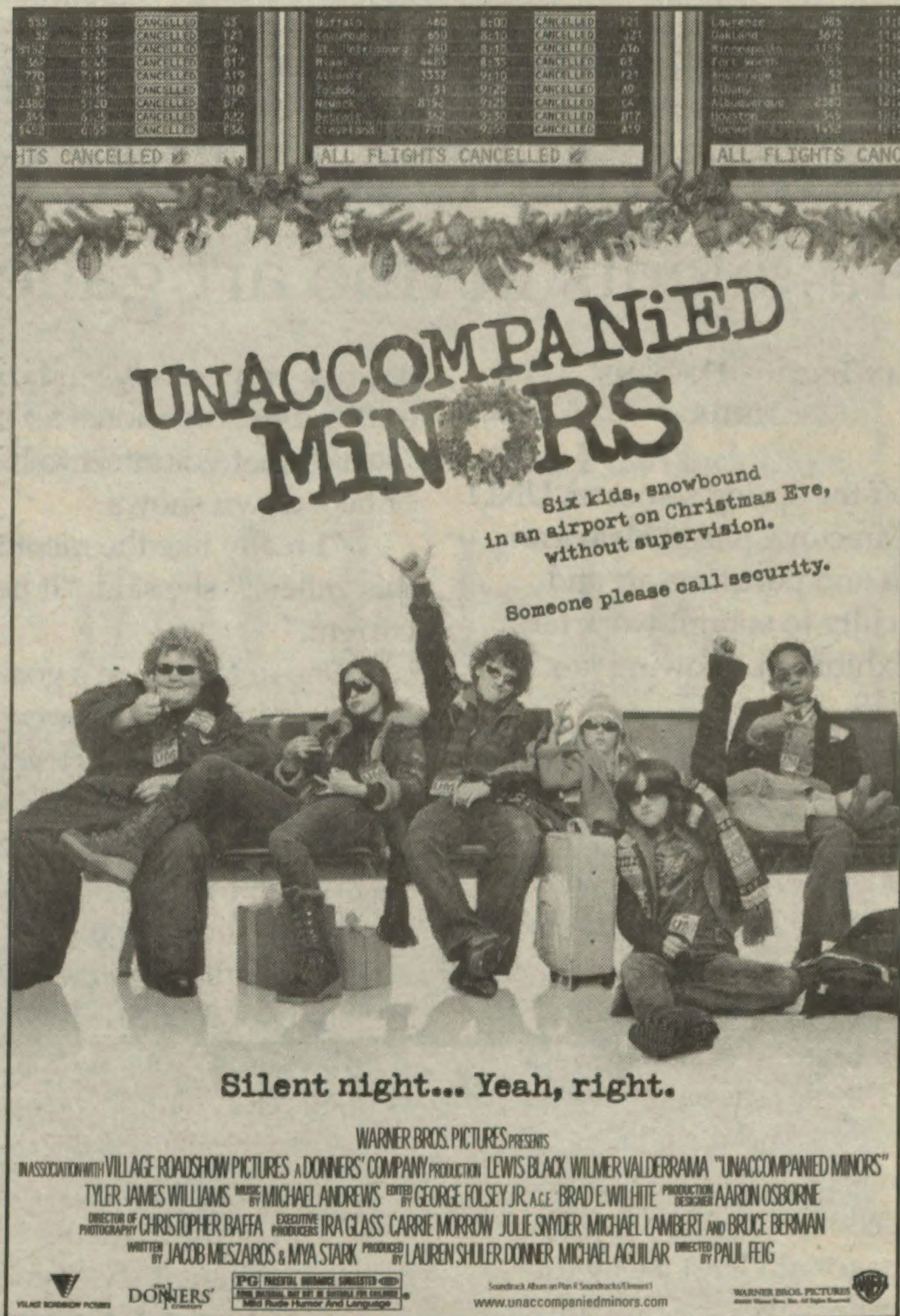
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IN THEATRES FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH!

Women's basketball team devours competition in Thanksgiving Classic

JASON GLENN
SPORTS EDITOR

The real feast came after turkey day for the UNO women's basketball team.

The Mavericks ran their record to 4-0 with a pair of big wins over Colorado School of Mines and Caldwell College in the Howard Johnson Thanksgiving Classic this weekend at Sapp Fieldhouse.

Forward Ashley Freerksen led the Mavs in Friday night's 84-68 win over Colorado Mines, dropping in the first 13 points for UNO on her way to a career-best 23-point performance.

Freerksen's barrage helped the Mavs carry a 36-28 lead into the second half when early layups by guard Ellen Majewski and forward Lacey Geitzenauer pushed the margin to 12 points.

Geitzenauer was flawless all night, going 5-for-5 on field goals, including a three-pointer and 8-for-8 from the charity stripe to finish with 19 points.

After Friday's appetizer, the Mavericks

See **WOMEN'S B-BALL**: Page 7



photo by Patrick Doty

Sophomore Ellen Majewski drives to the hoop over Caldwell's Amy Ransom in the Mavericks' 86-44 win Saturday night.

Hockey team comes back to split weekend spar with Fighting Irish

JASON GLENN
SPORTS EDITOR

Coming off an 0-4-1 road stretch, the UNO hockey team needed to get back home and dig up a little mojo.

The only thing standing in their way was No. 5-ranked Notre Dame.

But after dropping Friday night's game 4-2 to the Fighting Irish at the Qwest Center, the Mavs used a Juha Uotila power play slap shot with just over two minutes left in the game to topple their conference foes and put a halt to an eight-game winless streak.

Notre Dame had built a 3-0 lead by early in the second period Friday when the Mavericks attempted to clamp down and mount a comeback. UNO held the Irish scoreless through the remainder of the second then jumped on the board early in the third when Brandon Scero's long shot from the left side skittered through Notre Dame goaltender David Brown's glove.

Three minutes later, Phil Angell knocked the puck in off a jumble in the crease to pull the Mavs to within one at 3-2.

The Irish were able to fend off the

rallying Mavericks, though, and got the insurance goal from Kevin Deeth with just over five minutes to play.

Notre Dame again grabbed the early lead in Saturday's game, but this time the Mavs didn't let them run away with it. Just a minute-and-a-half after the Irish scored in the first period, Bryan Marshall notched his fourth goal of the year to tie the game at 1-1.

Neither team found the net in the second period but with little over a minute off the clock in the third, freshman Mark Bernier got his first career goal and put UNO up 2-1.

Notre Dame responded soon after, with Deeth picking up his second goal of the weekend on a power play to even the score again.

But with time winding down, a pair of holding penalties on the Irish gave the Mavs a two-man advantage. After a mad scramble in front of the Notre Dame net, the puck popped out to Uotila who drilled home the game winner.

UNO continues conference play next weekend with two games at Bowling Green.

Football team ends season with playoff loss to North Dakota

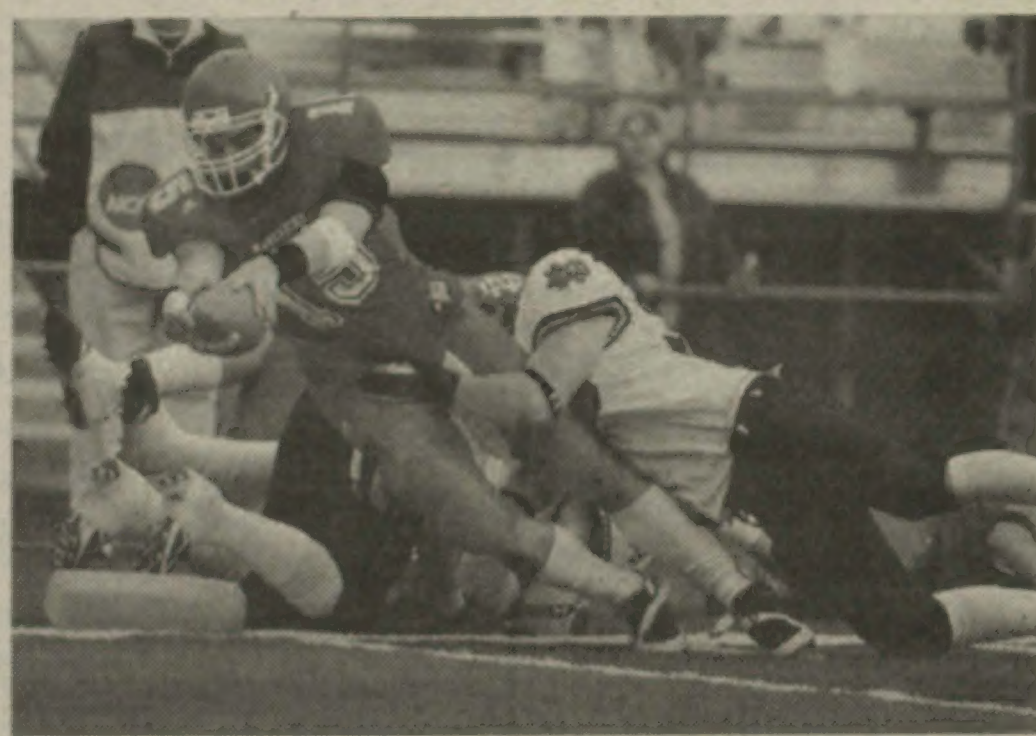


photo by Patrick Doty
Quarterback Zach Miller extends the ball over the pylon to record his fourth touchdown of the day.

JASON GLENN
SPORTS EDITOR

With the Mavericks' Division II-leading ground game set to collide with North Dakota's potent passing offense, everyone knew this showdown wasn't going to be a low-scoring affair.

Unfortunately for the Mavs, this time the seesaw came to rest on UND's side.

Despite a four-touchdown performance by quarterback Zach Miller, the UNO football team's season ended early in the playoffs again with a 38-35 loss to North Dakota Saturday at Caniglia Field.

Coach Pat Behrns said he was proud of his team's effort, but their continuing struggles in the post-season have become difficult to bear.

"I'm proud to be a part of what happened today," Behrns said. "Obviously, I'm very disappointed that we lost the game. You know, we've been carrying a monkey around on our back here for about six or seven years; now it feels like a gorilla. Hopefully, one of these years we can get better as a program and as a team to take it one more step further."

The game promised to be a barn-burner right from the get-go when UND's star receiver Weston Dressler took the initial kickoff 66 yards to the UNO 28-yard line. Six plays later, quarterback Reed Manke connected with Blair Grover to put the Fighting Sioux up 7-0.

UNO responded three minutes later with Miller's first touchdown of the game, a one-yard run that capped a 76-yard drive and, after a blocked extra point, made the score 7-6.

Then the race was on and it seemed as if the team that had the ball last was the one that was going to pull it out.

After Dressler finished the next UNO drive with a 6-yard scoring run, Miller brought the Mavericks back downfield and picked up another touchdown on a 14-yard broken play scramble.

The UNO defense held North Dakota on their next possession and forced the only punt of the game. The Mavs capitalized five plays later when Nate Wurth rumbled 54 yards down the right sideline to put UNO up 20-14.

Undaunted, the Fighting Sioux took their next two drives all the way to post a 28-20 halftime lead.

The Mavericks opened the second half with a seven-and-a-half minute, 81-yard drive culminating in another Miller touchdown and two-point conversion run by Kyle Kasperbauer to even the score at 28-28.

But North Dakota replied with their own clock-consuming 92-yarder to go up 35-28 with a minute left in the third quarter.

Miller led the Mavs on another impressive drive to open the fourth, completing two big passes to tight end Zac Herold and notching his fourth score to tie the game again at the 13:08 mark.

But after the teams traded interceptions on their ensuing possessions, UND took the lead back with 2:45 to go on a 26-yard Brandon Hellevang field goal.

Despite getting the ball back for what seemed to be the final possession, the Mavs couldn't get a drive going and went four-and-out to allow the Fighting Sioux to run out the clock.

Miller said the loss will be something the team will feel right up until the first game next year.

See **FOOTBALL**: Page 8

From **WOMEN'S B-BALL**: Page 6

made a full-blown meal out of Caldwell, jumping on top early and never looking back on their way to an 86-44 rout.

Guards Karen Thies and Cayla Hargrove both had 16 points to lead UNO, and Freerksen had another solid night with 15 points and seven rebounds.

Despite the lopsided score, Coach Patty Patton Shearer felt her team didn't come out strong early in the game. Still, she was impressed with the way her players picked it up and dominated the paint.

"I just thought we did a great job on the boards tonight," she said. "And we

were much more physical in the second half. You know, we went after rebounds, pursued the ball and finished plays, and that was nice."

With a team split between freshmen and seniors, Patton Shearer is happy with the results she's seen early in the season, but knows there's a lot left to learn.

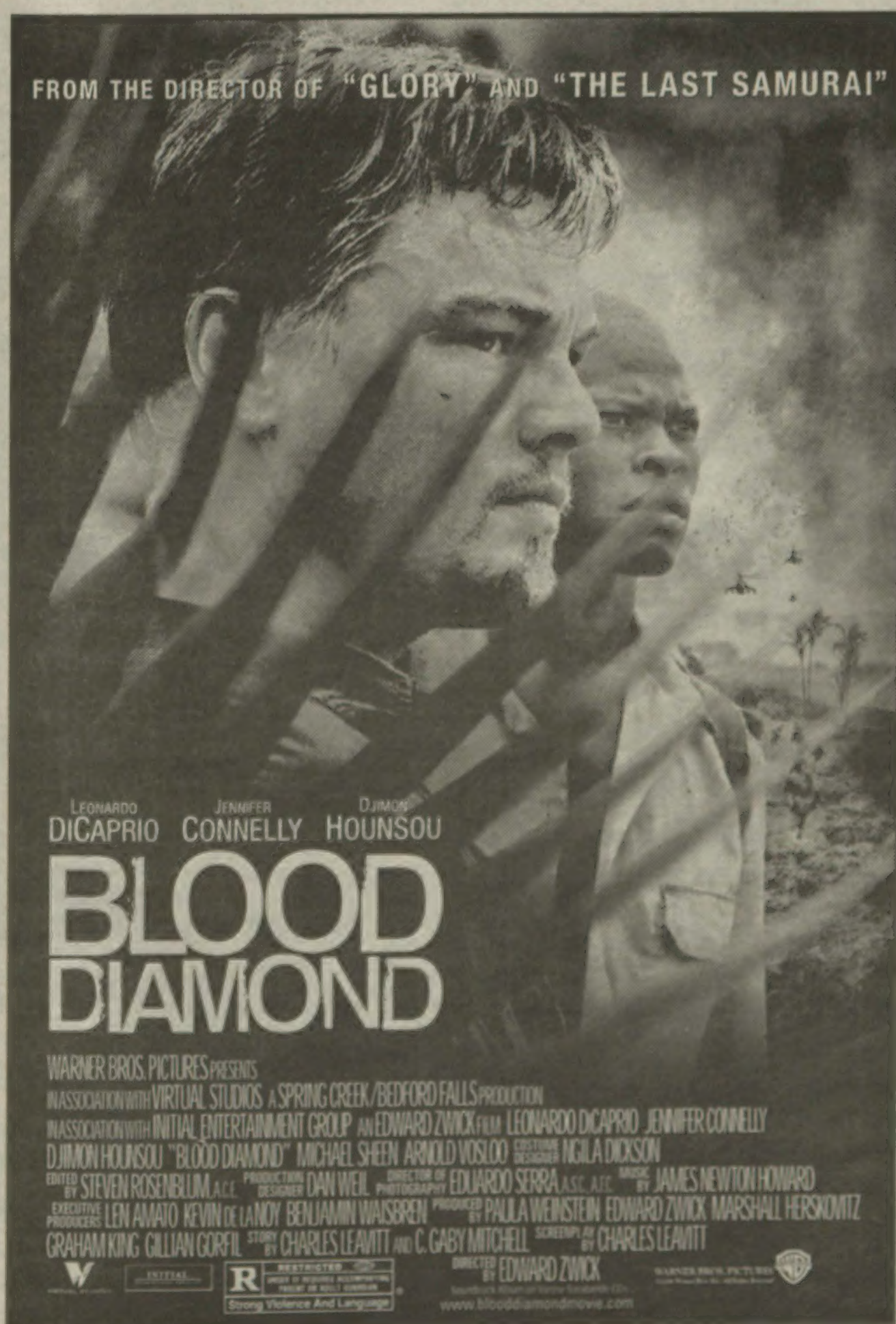
"I think we've done some really good things," she said. "We've played some really good games. We have to get better in execution. I think that comes with time, more practices, you know, more game experience time."



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IN THEATRES FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH!

From **BOND**: Page 4

And as he makes his second kill with the informant in the suave, sophisticated way of Sean Connery's early Bond films, we see the struggle and pain of his first, culminating in the gun-barrel opening.

The opening scene tells it like it is. This is a completely different James Bond but rooted in the history set by the past films. *Casino Royale*, based on author Ian Fleming's first novel about Bond, modernizes an aging series and keeps strictly classical in nature. It's something to be marveled.

Daniel Craig takes over as Bond in the new film, which centers on a banker for terrorists, named Le Chiffre. Le Chiffre has a gambling problem, though, and when Bond indirectly causes him to lose his clients' money, Le Chiffre has to set up a high stakes poker game to win it back. MI6 sends Bond to the game to make sure he doesn't get the money and thereby ensuring that his unhappy clients will take care of him.

Along the way, we see Bond grow into the 007 we know from the 20 original films. While it takes place before those movies, *Casino Royale* stays in modern day, making this prequel into something new, unlike *Star Wars*. Even if you've read the book and seen the films, you don't really know where Craig's Bond is going to take you.

There's not much to complain about with *Casino Royale*. If you've never seen a 007 movie, this is a great one to start with. If you've hated the last few entries, this is nothing like them. If you're a fanboy,

you'll get to experience a classic Bond story not explored in earlier films. The best part for the latter is the fact that this movie doesn't discount its predecessors, but rather, honors them. *Casino Royale* really does have something to offer to everyone.

The action scenes are scaled back from the last film, *Die Another Day*, but are by no means less enjoyable. You also get to see Bond do something that he really hasn't in a long time: be a spy. He has to sneak around and solve mysteries unlike in past blockbusters. The villain, Le Chiffre, played by Danish superstar Mads Mikkelsen, is more of a tragic figure in this movie. We actually feel bad for him at one point.

You get a love story that you can buy for the first time since the 1960s in a Bond film with Eva Green as Vesper Lynd, too. The chemistry between Craig and Green is completely believable and needed for the new Bond.

Even down to the opening credits, this movie is classic and modern in the best combination possible.

If you didn't get a chance to see this movie over Thanksgiving break, what are you waiting for? This is not a film to be missed. *Casino Royale* repositions the James Bond series to where it deserves to be: the greatest action franchise around. This time, you'll wait until the end of the credits just to make sure "James Bond Will Return."

Grade: A

From **TOY DRIVE:** Page 1

to an article in "The Economist," the Pine Ridge reservation is a tragic consequence of defending a way of life in impossible circumstances.

Gene Sperling, the head of the National Economic Council, said Pine Ridge is "almost an entirely government entitlement economy." Three-quarters of the people are unemployed. Two-thirds are below the poverty line. One-third are homeless.

The median income on the reservation is \$2,600 to \$3,500 per year, making living conditions difficult for families living on the reservation.

Isolated by a desert of grass, the community remains attached to one of the poorest places in America. Their reservation is a bleak reminder of the impact rural poverty can have on a community.

To brighten the holiday at Pine Ridge, LaRue would like each child to receive two gifts and a stocking. He organized two benefit concerts, where local Omaha musicians will perform at Mick's Music & Bar on Dec. 1 and Murphy's Lounge on 90th and L streets will host a show on Dec. 2. The featured performers at the benefit show are John

Henry, Brad Hoshaw, Kyle Harvey, Sarah Benck, Lash LaRue, the Seth Walker Band, the Mercurys, the Johnson Bros. and the Side Effects.

"People can either bring a gift or pay the \$10 cover," LaRue said. "The shows this year are the best ever. It's a wonderful cause and people are getting their money's worth."

The revenue from the concerts will go toward buying toys for the children of Pine Ridge.

All administrative fees are covered by LaRue, including the travel expenses of transporting the toys to the reservation.

LaRue said a truck will be loaded Dec. 14 to take the gifts to South Dakota. The children will be gathered at the Community Center in Porcupine to receive their gifts.

The Intertribal Student Council has a drop box available at the Multicultural Affairs Office, north of the Fireside Lounge. Students, staff and faculty can drop off any wrapped or unwrapped toys until Dec. 12. A drop box is also available in the Gateway offices.

You can find more information regarding the Lash LaRue toy drive at myspace.com/lashlaruetoydrive.

From **TREE OF LIGHTS:** Page 3

location will bring in more donations because of the estimated 113,000 people who drive by it daily.

Mayor Mike Fahey attended the ceremony and encouraged Omahans to open their hearts and give what they can to the Tree of Lights campaign.

"By working together, we can ensure that this holiday season is a brighter, happier and more peaceful time for the members of our community who are in need," Fahey said. "Please do not underestimate the power of your donation."

The Tree of Lights campaign also kicks off the third annual 72nd Street Food Fight. UNO, along with five other local businesses, is competing to collect the most food to fill the shelves of the Salvation Army's food pantry. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska,

Travel & Transport, First Data Corp., College of St. Mary and Omnium Worldwide Inc. are also participating.

As of Nov. 17, UNO had collected 5,734 items, according to Rita Henry, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs. The university has until Dec. 5 to collect its goal of 9,000 items.

The Salvation Army is specifically requesting contributions of canned meats, dry cereals, canned fruits, tomato products, dry boxed items, canned soups, canned vegetables, disposable diapers and hygiene products. No glass containers will be accepted.

Students interested in donating food items may leave items in the designated blue barrels located in various buildings across campus.

From **WIKIPEDIA:** Page 3

finding research.

"You can break down search results in so many different ways and every source is credible," Johnson said.

Freshman Kady Zoucha feels that those who continue to use Wikipedia.

com should be smart about their research.

"Always double check and back up Wikipedia.com sources with other supporting materials," Zoucha said. "As long as you use common sense you will be fine."

From **AIDS DAY:** Page 1

to be tested for strep throat, but asking to be tested for AIDS is different."

Though there is an undeniable stigma associated with being tested for HIV and AIDS, young people are increasingly becoming more concerned about safe-sex practices.

"[Getting tested for HIV is] something that everybody should do, especially if they're sexually active," said Kayla Wisecup, a junior family sciences major.

"Sex in the Dark," a panel discussion to take place at University Village, will be held Friday, Dec. 1, at 7 p.m. Organized by Student Health Services, Planned Parenthood and University Village, the panel will be an opportunity for students to converse freely with health experts about everything from relationships to safe-sex practices. The panel will feature Adler and representatives from Planned Parenthood and other

organizations.

"What we'd really like to do is normalize it so people aren't afraid to talk about it," Adler said about AIDS.

AIDS and HIV are topics that are often neglected or ignored, particularly among young people. Both events on UNO's campus, as well as a variety of events occurring in the Omaha area, are aimed at offering people of all ages a forum in which to voice their concerns and get real answers about AIDS and safe-sex practices.

World AIDS Day occurs every year on Dec. 1. The event began in 1988 and is now organized by the World AIDS Campaign, whose theme is "Stop AIDS: Keep the Promise," according to its Web site, worldaidscampaign.info.

Since 1981, more than 20 million have died from AIDS, and currently 1.1 million Americans are living with HIV or AIDS.

From **GALLERY:** Page 5

May 4.

Heavican said she's "blown away" by the quality of UNO students' work. She witnessed her first BFA mid-term review this past semester, where all of the faculty view and critique a BFA candidate's work.

"Every student's ideas and concepts are truly unique," she said. To view students' work at such exhibitions is "truly inspiring," and is also a good opportunity for underclassmen to see what is to come for their future studies as an art student at UNO.

Lectures usually accompany exhibits; the Fall BFA Show will host thesis talks in partner with bachelor of art and art history candidates Dec. 4, 6 and 8 at noon in the UNO Art Gallery.

The lectures are not finalized for the

spring semester yet, but Heavican said they will include three Bemis Center resident talks, as well as a panel about marketing for artists. The schedule will be posted Jan. 8.

In her excitement for UNO art students' talent, Heavican also mentioned a bi-annual show held at the Bemis Underground on Nov. 18, presented by the Organization for the Advancement for the Arts in the Department of Art and Art History at UNO. *The Red Chair Show* exhibits any UNO major student's work. Last year's one-night-only show proved successful, with more than 500 gallery visitors, Heavican said.

Of all the various happenings with the UNO art students and gallery, it is no wonder Heavican is so happy to be where she is.

From **MEN'S B-BALL:** Page 6

this year, that was our best half of the year, bar none ... Second game, second half, second night, you know, we probably don't quite have the ability to do some of the things we did in the first half, but we've got to find a way," said Hansen.

"We've just got to weather the storm before we start getting some guys back."

From **FOOTBALL:** Page 7

"We'd like to go deeper into the playoffs than one-and-done; that's going to sting from now until August," he said. "I'm anxious to get back in it already."

To Behrns, the biggest challenge will be overcoming a persistent playoff motif.

"I just hope someday we can get rid of that gorilla," he said.

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